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1 activities; and

2 WHEREAS, a recent study indicates that dropout rates in
3 smaller schools are lower than those in larger schools with
4 more than six hundred students; and

5 WHEREAS, administrators and faculty in smaller schools are
6 more accessible and accountable to the community than those in
7 larger schools;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state board of education be
10 requested to study the benefits of smaller schools as well as
11 methods to reduce school size; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state board of education
13 include in the study:

14 A. the cost of reaching the size of two hundred
15 fifty students for elementary schools, four hundred twenty-five
16 students for middle schools and six hundred students for high
17 schools; and

18 B. options for school districts such as class load
19 waivers, virtual classrooms, potential charter schools at
20 business sites, scheduling options, methods of identifying
21 donated or subsidized facilities and other resourceful ideas;
22 and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state board of education
24 report its findings to the legislative education study
25 committee by November 1, 2003; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education and the director of the legislative education study committee.

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